

February 1, 2003

Docket: ID154. Inventor: Charles Walton

Charles A. Walton
19115 Overlook Road
Los Gatos, CA 95030
~~408-354-1358~~

TITLE: USING TRANSDUCER PROBES TO LOCATE HIDDEN ANIMALS

CLAIMS:

I Claim :

1. A system using probes to locate hidden animals in the ground, in which said probes . carry within or attached thereto transducers, capable of converting a physical effect to an electrical signal.
2. A system using probes as in Claim 1 using transducer probes to locate hidden animals, in which said transducers may be thermocouples, for measuring temperature, or microphones for detecting sounds.
3. A system using probes as in Claim 1 in which said probes are in the form of stakes capable of being driven into the ground in the neighborhood of suspected dwellings of hidden animals.
4. A system as in Claim 1 using probes which incorporate transducers to locate hidden animals, in which said animals are gophers, moles, rabbits, or other animals who typically create nests in the ground.
5. A system as in Claim 2 in which temperature or sound level is displayed in digital form, for human readable numbers, or for number entry into a computer, or where display is the motion of a needle.
6. A system as in Claim 1 in which said electrical signals from neighboring probes are compared to determine the direction of the hidden animals, and in which the greater temperature reading difference between two or more probes represents the direction of the location of the hidden animal, so that location of the home burrow can be determined..
7. A system as in Claim 1 to locate hidden animals in which said probe said probe is mobile and able to follow know animal tunnels, and is able to follow these tunnels to the central nest.

8. A system as in Claim 7 in 20 in which aid probe is propelled by an integral power propulsion system, and is able to push against the walls of said tunnel and move ahead, carrying behind it a lengthy cable delivering power to the driving system, said wire also bearing intelligence for forward steering, and intelligence findings back to a central station..

9. A system as in Claim 8 in which said mobile probe also carries a video camera, able to send a picture backwards of the situation within the tunnel, and report animals or rescue people in the tunnel.

10. A system as in Claim 1 in which the search is not in the ground but in a tree or structure

11. (Independent) A method for locating hidden animals, in which probes sense a characteristic of said animals, and report to external equipment the magnitude of those characteristics.

12. A method as in claim 11 in which successive probes are driven, with the point of the probe insertion moving in the direction of increased signal strength from said characteristics.

13. A method as in Claim 11 in which an operator successively drives probes placed in the direction of increasing temperature or increasing animal sound, until a peak or maximum is reached, indicating the location of a burrow or home nest.

14. A method as in Claim 11, in which once said burrow or nest is located a poison can be inserted into or near the said maximum, and said nest, to eliminate the family of said animals.

Inventor; Charles Walton

Charles Walton

date

Witness: _____
